

Volume 2, Issue 2
February/March 2010

EXISARUBA Magazine

Our Artist of the month: Claudius Phillips

His Carnival stage name: Mighty Talent, is an understatement of this Singer, Musician, Composer's infinite potential as an artist.

BIRKENSTOCK

FOOTFIT

WWW.EXISARUBA.MAG



Close up: Artist of the Month

Claudius Phillips AKA Mighty Talent

Carnaval music and Claudius Phillips are practically one in the same—you just can't have one without the other, or so it has been for more than 20 years. Also known by his stage name, "Mighty Talent," he is the island's foremost Carnaval music figure, winning the Road March King title 15 times and the Calypso King crown 19 times.

Though he is praised as a gifted musician (he studied at the Berkley School of Music in Boston), recognized as an award-winning composer (his shelves are filled with colorful awards and acknowledgments from all over the Caribbean), as a successful commercial artist (he has attained more gold records than any other artist in the Dutch Caribbean), it's his captivating style and undeniable charisma that attract legions of fans all over Aruba and many other island countries in the Caribbean. In Europe he is no stranger, since Aruba is still part of the Dutch Kingdom, this



Even though he started very young this didn't keep him from success, one of his earliest achievements was winning the OTI festival in Vinia del Mar in Chile. Having studied at Berkley has equipped Claudius with knowledge that has added the professional touch to his music. Always adding innovation to his music

the list of hits abound and he seem to have found the formula to make just the kind of music that the public likes.



detail is also the reason he is admired by many in Holland and other countries in Europe.



15 years into a "Musical Journey"

Claudius Philips (Mighty Talent) The composer, arranger, and talented pianist, Claudius Philips has gained the love and admiration of all and everyone who have heard and danced to the rhythm of his well-versed songs. Claudius Philips, born April 8, is one of Aruba's most talented musician.

He began his debut as a singer at the age of 16, participating in different Song Festival in St. Maarten. At age 17, he won his first Song Festival which was held in St. Maarten. In a period of more than 15 years, Claudius participated in the Carnival Calypso & Road March Contest as "Mighty Talent", winning the title of Calypso King 13 times and 9 times as Road March King, where on several occasions managed to win both crowns - Calypso King and Road March King. His reign as Calypso and Road March King was in the years - '83, '84, '85, '87, '88, '89, '90, '91, '92, '93, '95, '96, '97 and 1998.

As a talented individual Claudius did not limit himself to participating only in festivals, but had the great opportunity to further his studies and gain more knowledge in music at the Berkley School of Music in Boston. He completed a one-year course which today serves him well.

The OTTI festivals which is an International Song Festival took place in Washington D.C., in 1983 where he won 3rd finalist. His first 45, "En Cada Nota Cantara Tu voz" was out in 1984 after winning an unforgettable prize for his participation in the OTTI festival.

In 1983, he won the title of Voz Hubenil - a festival held in Aruba.

In 1984, The Caribbean Song Festival was held in Aruba and Claudius was the absolute winner of this festival. He went on to win other festivals such as the Caribbean International Festival held in Curacao, Talented Teens Aruba 1989, and the Antilles Casoca Festival in 1994. He has established such a great enthusiasm with the public of Aruba and International that he has managed to win also Band of the Year, Music Man of the Year, Superstar of the Year, Song of the Year and many, many more. He was also given various plaques by the government for his support in the cultural part of Aruba. He always donated part of his gains to less fortunate children, and always writes songs for kids during the Carnival Season.

As a creative individual, Claudius started his own musical group in 1992, right now consisting of 16 members. "Claudius & O.R.E.O." For 6 years now he has provided his services to the local community as well as the tourism industry. Claudius & O.R.E.O. has traveled abroad many times to perform for his International fans, such as, Curacao, Bonaire, St. Maarten, Suriname, Holland and New York.

"COME TO THE ISLAND" - his first CD production which was out in 1993 was met with an enthusiasm from the press, radio stations and the public in general. This CD contained 10 great hits, and was the best seller sold out with the Hit Song "Bouquet Di Flor" which won: Song of the Year 1994 on all Aruba's radio stations. Claudius & O.R.E.O. - Band of the Year 1994, Claudius - Singer of the Year 1994, Most popular Band of 1994 in Aruba and Curacao. "10 Years OF GLORY" - His first double CD with Mighty Talent and also the first double CD to be on the local market, which was also No. 1 best seller in Aruba and the Antilles.



His Christmas song version named "HIS MI SALARIO" won Christmas Song of the Year 1994 and the Best Video Clip of the Year 1994.

"SACA E BOEM" - During the year of 1994 and 1995, Claudius & O.R.E.O., sold a great quantity of this CD production, the popularity of "Saca e Boem Boem" a Soca Cadance Song, pinned Claudius the third, Road Jam King title in 1995. This CD is and has been the Best Sold Record Sale and received from Disc Makers Record Company U.S.A., a Gold CD Award & Platinum CD Award in one month for selling over 26,000 copies. It has been Number One Song for several weeks on the Top ABC of all radio stations and became absolute winner of Song of the Year 1995 in Aruba, Curacao and Bonaire.

"ROADMARCH 1995 & SACA EL BUM BUM". Another CD production winner with his songs Calypso "One Day" and Roadmarch "Cultura" and the premiere of "Saca El Bum Bum", the Spanish version which also has received great support from the Spanish speaking in Aruba and the neighbouring Latin countries. That year Claudius & O.R.E.O. also won Band of the Year, CD of the Year, Most Popular Band in the Antilles and Video Clip of the Year.

"SIGI SIGI" - this CD Production also became a Number One CD on the Top ABC in Aruba containing 8 super hits. First song aired was Ole, Ole, Ole, followed by Sign Sign and the famous hit Happy Hour. That same year, Claudius & O.R.E.O. again won Band of the Year 1996, Best Band of the Year in Curacao, CD of the Year 1996 and Edwina Werleman, Manager received Manager of the Year Award 1996.

"HISA MI SALARIO" a 1997 CD production, was also a best selling production with hit songs as Hisa Mi Salario, Spion, Pa Ki Ba Casa. This CD won CD of the Year 1997 and Claudius & O.R.E.O. won Band of the Year. During his Europe concerts in Holland in 1997, he received another Golden Disc Award Best Performance.

"CALL ME" - one of His latest CD production on the market has already aired many hit songs, as Con bo ta come OREO, Donkey Ride, Ki Dushi, Call me and also his 1998 Calypso "Basta" and Road march "Solo Jam". One of His latest promotional video clip is being aired with the super balad "Ban Di Bo". In 1999 Claudius Philips manages to win both crowns again Calypso King and Road March King!! Claudius together with his band OREO keep Bringing in the hits and since a few year back has started with his own Carnival Group OPC, seen here in pictures taken during the latest Carnival Parades of 2010.

Do U like Salsa was the question Salsaruba Magazine asked Claudius? His answer was Does Fish like water? With many salsa numbers in his repertoire and also a few own Salsa tunes produced and recorded on his 19+CD productions Claudius Phillips IS our artist of the month!!



